

RELIGION SCIENCE

# The Columbian Star

The Warrior's name,  
Though pealed and chimed on all the tongues of fame,

Sounds less harmonious to the grateful mind,  
Than his who fashions and improves mankind...COLUMBIAN.

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## COLUMBIAN STAR.

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THE COLUMBIAN STAR.

transcribed the following

on Expounding Scrip-

ture, in the columns of

the Rev. James Gray, D.D.

Mediatorial Reign of the

God. The book is one of

great value. This extract

is characteristic of the

author in general, a contro-

versary pervades it. His sug-

gestions must be interesting to

the Bible, and it would

be well for ministers and

agregations to see to it, if

it might not be some valuable

particular.

D.

able, that blessed book,

omniscient Spirit of God

man; and that which

we call the only rule of

practice; that to which

we are to conform, and

from which we decide

what shall be taken; that

which was given not merely

to minister's text-book, but

to the property, her sacred

code of law; the

most more estimated,

and, more used than it

is. What can the church

mean, when she calls a

man her minister? Does

she mean a man of talents and learn-

ing, a good speaker, to gratify

the people with a sensible

well spoken? She means

something—the society which

more than this is no

church of God,

minister to read and ex-

plain the law of her Lord; to

work—his great work. I

deed, that there are socie-

ties and churches, who invite an

man to pronounce a

pronouncement on the general sub-

jects; and provided the

display masculine thought

and, some such socie-

ties, very little whether it be

of the Bible or not.

But a church of God

is, a society of a differ-

ent kind; she is organized

express purpose of study-

ing, obeying the law of her

sacred Scriptures. Of

course, one would think

that the minister must be read

and in all her meetings:

and in their meaning, and

in their doctrine and laws to

the actual state of so-

to prescribe to me my duty; he

assumes a super-human port and

majesty; he tells me that he has

a commission from Almighty God

to me; he asserts to my face that

the mediatorial Son of God has

sent him to instruct and command

me; he thunders, he threatens me

with the wrath of my Creator and

Redeemer, if I should disobey

what he utters as law and gospel.

Now, for one, I choose to chal-

lenge and to test these high pre-

tensions. I choose to look this

man in the face, and to say, how

shall I know that my God has sent

you to instruct and govern me?—

how shall I know, that Jesus Christ

has sent you to trouble my brain,

distract my heart, and harrow my

conscience? Can you work mira-

cles? Has God armed you with

his omnipotence, as a pledge that

your tongue shall be guided by his

omniscience? I must see your

commission. I must see why a

thing, like myself, should presume

to instruct, control, and terrify

me!

He produces his Bible—text af-

ter text—passage after passage

does he produce—whole books

written by inspired men does he

produce—and then asks me, do

you want any more evidence?—

And when my silence, and blush-

es, show that I feel my subordina-

tion and responsibility, then he

comes out—“Believe in the Lord

Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be

saved, and thy house.” He takes

the full command of me, in every

case where he can produce scrip-

tural authority; and no farther. I

would die, I would be annihilated,

before I would permit a thing like

myself, to dictate religion to me.

But when the man comes forward

and opens God's own word, and

shows, to my own rational satisfac-

tion, that he is preaching the very

doctrine of Moses and all the pro-

phets—of Paul and all the apos-

les—and of the Son of God him-

self, then I tremble and submit.—

Now, let these men take their own

proper rank in society; a rank not

assigned by the pride of them-

selves, or of their age; but ap-

pointed by God, for the common

good of all.

Now, if it be asked, by what

means shall the gospel minister be

enabled to maintain his high char-

acter most effectually? How shall

he most effectually support his of-

ficial rank? If he transforms him-

self into a human dictator; if he

insists that his words shall be re-

ceived as oracles, his pretensions

will be questioned and resisted;

and, instead of being permitted to

command, he will scarcely be al-

lowed to instruct. It is, as I con-

ceive, when he is acting as a mere

expositor of Scripture, that the

gospel minister appears in his

highest glory. It is then that the

greatest deference is paid to him.

which may have led any man to

adopt it. Every mode of instruc-

tion does good; it does not follow

that one mode of preaching must

be bad, because another mode is

better. Sermons on detached texts

have, doubtless, done great good,

and ought not to be abolished.—

But as the means of communicat-

ing correct views of religious truth,

can they, at all, be compared to re-

gular expositions of whole books

of Scripture? Let us examine

this subject seriously.

Where are ministers themselves

to get their theological knowledge?

The writing of systematic divines

are, surely, not the purest sources

of theological information; inspired

truth certainly is not improved

by uninspired men. Might it not

be worth the church's while to con-

sider whether she ought not to ex-

act a weekly exposition of a pas-

sage of Scripture from her minis-

ters, not merely for the purpose of

her instruction, but for the pur-

pose of instructing them. An in-

teligent communicator cannot be

a bad divine. Preparation for the

weekly exposition of Scripture,

compels a minister to be a diligent

student. A good expositor of

Scripture must become a learned

divine, according to the measure of

his faculties. Who enjoys the

benefit? Himself first, and next

the church. I am persuaded, that

there are expositors, who, if their

churches were to require them to

quit the practice, and confine them-

selves to sermons, would indignantly

close their pulpit doors—ex-

claiming, No! If I am not per-

mitted to preach Christianity by ex-

plaining the Bible, I will not spend

my time writing eloquent orations

for those who do not love the

truth.

Young preachers are apt to

shrink back from the difficulties

which attend a commentator. It

would be doing nothing to dimin-

ish their fears, by cherishing false

hopes. The difficulties lie in the

nature of things; and he who tri-

es the work may expect to meet them.

The only true encouragement is

this; that if the labours be diffi-

cult, the pay is glorious. The

clear and assured views of evan-

gelical truth, which the practice

of scriptural exposition produces;

the intellectual and spiritual rich-

es which result; the promptitude

and facility with which divine sub-

jects will, by and by, be grasped,

discussed, and handled; these are

a few, and only a few, of the rich

rewards, which God bestows on

all the diligent students of his own

word. The minister who has con-

quered the difficulties of a com-

mentator, I mean he who can,

with reasonable industry, expound

a chapter, or half a chapter, on

the Sabbath, has, in reality, con-

quered all the most formidable

difficulties of his office. Sermons

cost such a man almost nothing.

Saturday is divested of all its ter-

rors. He never trembles about a

few leaves of manuscript. He can

check for thousands, and is not

afraid of failing for small change.

If his heart only be right with God,

he can hardly ever be unprepared

for preaching the gospel. Thus

before he has reached the meridi-

an of life, he finds himself a man;

and carries his sermons in his heart,

not in his pocket.

In all that has been said respect-

ing the importance of preaching

the Gospel, in the way of formal

expositions of the Scriptures, I do

not think there is any thing in the

slightest degree, hyperbolic or

overstrained. I do indeed believe,

that this is the very means ordain-

ed by God, to effect that harmony

in the faith and profession of Chris-

tianity, for which we are praying,

and which we believe to be prom-

ised and predicted in the Bible.

Now, by what means can this be

effected? Can any man conceive

or conjecture any other means,

than the reading and expounding

of our common Bible. There can

not be any other means. So sure

as water is the proper element to

quench fire, so surely must the

reading and expounding of the

Scriptures, be the proper means

of promoting the purity of the

church's faith.

Perhaps it may be thought, that

I am led away by some prejudice

of education or habit to give an

undue preference to one method

of preaching the gospel over all

others. We are all, however, more

interested in the soundness of an

opinion, than in the circumstances

of its promulgation.

There is no excuse more com-

mon among mankind for the ne-

glect of almost every kind of duty,

than *want of time*. It is pleaded

by people of all ranks, and of all

conditions in life. You hear it as

well from the mere idler, who

saunters away his time in the

streets or in places of amusement

and dissipation; as from the more

industrious. It not only prevents

the performance of numerous so-

cial and relative duties, but is a

pretence for the neglect of the in-

initely more important concerns

of the soul. Endeavour to reason

with the ungodly upon “righteous-

ness, temperance, and judgment to

come,” and they will say with Fe-

lix, “Go thy way for this time;

chickens. She never leaves them; and as soon as she begins to move, all the little ones closely follow, and whenever she stops, assemble in a cluster round her. A branch of a tree thus peopled having been cut off, the mother showed every symptom of excessive uneasiness. In other circumstances, such an alarm would have caused her immediate flight; but now she never stirred from her young, but kept beating her wings incessantly with a very rapid motion, evidently for the purpose of protecting them from the apprehended danger.

"Caterpillars will consume twice their own weight of leaves in a day. Some larvae that live on flesh, will, in the course of a day, grow to be two hundred times heavier; others again are extremely abstinent. A mite will live three months or more, although glued down to a piece of glass. Spiders will live a year without food. M. Baker kept a beetle three years in the same manner. As to the matter, they seem to eat every thing but metal and stones. Every part of every plant, fruit, leaves, bark, wood, secretions, is the prey of some insect or other."

"The manner of eating is infinitely varied in this tribe, as much in consequence of their great variety of forms and of food, as of the different conditions in which the individual exists at different times; the forms of their jaws are endless, and many of them possess two pairs, the one intended for securing, and the other for masticating their food. Those that feed on honey have a tubular proboscis, varying in its form, disposition, length and other particulars, according to the various objects with which it is to be engaged. The fluids are extracted from the solid parts of plants or animals, by other instruments, consisting of lancets or cutting tools, acting within a tubular or grooved beak. The proboscis of many flies has an apparatus at the extremity for forming a vacuum, thus aiding the ascent of the fluids. Some of these instruments are so sharp as to pierce the hard wing of a beetle. With respect to the sanguivorous species, our authors have forgot to remark, that they not only select the arteries for their operations, but also have the power, by means of some poisonous fluid, or chemical action probably, so to dilute the blood as to make it flow through orifices which it otherwise could not pass. Equally extraordinary must be the animal compound, which forms these perforating engines, which they have also passed unnoticed. Our midge is so minute an animal, that its proboscis cannot be seen without a high magnifying power. Yet it penetrates a tough epidermis and an artery also; and that with an engine that is flexible, is probably muscular, and which for aught we can conjecture, cannot differ from the toughest animal matter we know, namely, horn, or bone; whereas we cannot cause even the toughest or hardest metals to produce these effects when of a far greater size; nay, it is with some difficulty that we can reduce even the most tenacious to such dimensions.

"We do not find much of novelty in the account of the stratagems used by insects to ensnare their prey; and we shall therefore add one that fell under our observation. The Cancer Phalangium, L. is provided with very long legs, and is entirely covered with glutinous hairs. By means of its cutting hands, it snips off the leaves of the small peck in the pools which it inhabits, and by attaching them to these hairs, becomes undistinguishable from the plant itself. Thus dressed, it lies on its back with its claws extended upwards, making immediate prize of the small shrimps or other insects that fly to the kaku plant for shelter. So perfect is the deception, that we only discovered this trick, by finding that a plant which we had placed in our book, with the intention of drying it, turned round and ran away. We had the curiosity afterwards to examine the metamorphosed animals in their own element, when we found that nothing could induce them to show any marks of life, but the entrance of a shrimp among their leaves. When stripped of their borrowed plumes, they escaped with great rapidity.

"With respect to the construction of their habitations, the bee tribe, as is well known, is the most remarkable. One species, the Apis muraria, builds with stone. The materials are sand, which is first cemented by some viscid fluid, which the creature supplies, into the form of small shot, and then transported to the wall which is chosen for the nest. With these ranges of cells are constructed for the reception of eggs, and of the food of the future larvæ. The cells, when completed, are entirely covered with the same materials, so as to conceal the whole;

which thus becomes scarcely distinguishable from the stone to which it is fixed. The common wasp makes its nest of perfect paper; and, by some species, trees are excavated into cells as complicated as those of the common bee, entering by apertures scarcely visible. We have seen in Scotland a large tree, of which a foot in length of the trunk was thus manufactured, while living, into a bee hive. The apis passaveris makes a cell in the ground, which she chooses to line with the scattered petals of the poppy, and that alone. The leaves of trees, ingeniously cut, cemented and adapted, form the materials of cells or houses to any other insects of this family.

"The vitality of some insects is a very provoking circumstance to us miserable mortals, who die when the brains are out, and long before. The females of moths and butterflies will not die upon any provocation, till they have laid their eggs. There are fifty, and fifty more, that will go on living and performing all their usual functions without wings, or legs, or heads, or intestines. They are as comfortable when impaled on a pin, and stuck into a pill box, as in their native element. At least they make love, and eat each other; and what more is wanted to prove that they are happy."

The motions of insects, and the innumerable ways in which they attain their ends, form a wide subject. The activity of the cheese maggot in jumping is well known. This motion is produced by bending itself, and inserting two claws which it possesses at one end, into as many cavities adapted to them at the other. From this position it suddenly disengages itself, by extending the body, and then makes leaps as extraordinary in proportion to its length, as if a man was to jump 160 feet high."

## MISSIONARY.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN MIRROR.

HISTORY OF MISSIONS.

Continued.

MISSION TO THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Geographical Notice.

The Sandwich Islands are situated in the Pacific ocean, west of the southern part of N. America, between 18, 50 and 22, 20 N. Lat., and 154, 55 and 160, 15, W. Lon. They are extended in a direction W. N. W. and E. S. E. Owhyhee being the southeastern island, and Oneehow the northwestern. Owhyhee is 97 miles in length by 78 in breadth; Mowee, 48 by 29; Tahoorowa, 11 by 8; Rania, 19 by 9; Morotoi, 40 by 7; Woahoo, 46 by 23; Atooi, 33 by 28; Oneehow, 20 by 7; Tahoorwa, which is but little more than a rock, 1 by half a mile.—These islands were first discovered by the great navigator, Capt. Cook; and on Owhyhee he lost his life in 1779. The climate is salubrious, and the soil fertile. The people were savages and idolaters; but were ingenious, and had made some progress in agriculture and manufactures, more than savages in general. For some years past European and American ships have pretty frequently visited the islands, by which means they have learnt something of the arts and blessings of civilized nations. Tamahamaha, their principal King, a man of superior and inquisitive powers of mind, seized the little advantages thus put in his reach; and made no small advances in imitation of other sovereigns. But he and his people remained sunk in heathenish ignorance, when the mission was undertaken.

The mission established.

This field for labour was first presented to the board by the circumstance that several natives of the island, brought to this country by different persons, had been noticed and put under a course of instruction in the foreign mission school. These were becoming able to instruct their countrymen; several of them had given evidence of piety, and ardently desired to return and carry the knowledge of the Saviour. The board resolved to send them, and some Americans who desired to join them.—Henry Obookiah, of Owhyhee, a young man of much promise, God saw fit to call to himself, while a member of the school. The missionary family was organized and sailed, October, 1819; and arrived at the islands in March, 1820.

Renunciation of Idolatry.

Just at the time of the embarkation of this mission from Boston, Tamahamaha having been dead about six months, Reho-reho, his son and successor, in concert with the chief priest, gave command to destroy the idols. The priest set the example by setting fire to them with his own hand. One chief resisted; and about 40 of his party were killed in the conflict. But the destruction was complete throughout Owhyhee; and there seems to have been no resistance,

but an immediate compliance, in all the other islands. The example of the Society islands, of which they had heard, the light they had received from seamen exposing the folly of the practice, and probably state policy in the King, contributed to produce this event.

Yet whatever causes or motives led to it, we are compelled to see the hand of Jehovah, and exclaim, what hath God wrought! The missionaries were not apprized of the change till their arrival. Great were their surprise, and wonder, and joy, and gratitude, to find this mighty obstacle to their labours and success already removed; feelings in which the whole Christian world have since participated.

What are their prospects?

They found not idolaters; but a people without any religion; a people possessed of one degree of light, to show them that their former gods were vanity and a lie; but still in gross darkness, and slaves to iniquity. The principal king lives in the practice of drunkenness, polygamy, and incest. His subjects are not all so bad, nor all the inferior kings. But there is no piety or virtue to be found. They have been permitted to settle among them. By some, particularly King Tamoree, of Atooi, they have been joyfully welcomed. The kings and chiefs favour them; and they are proceeding quietly in their work. They have established schools, and begun to preach the word. Visitors and temporary residents, who call or trade at the islands, as well as the kings and chiefs, have contributed to the support of schools, the erection of a house for worship, and the support of the labourers.

Stations and labourers.

At Kirooah, on Owhyhee, are stationed Rev. Asa Thurston and his wife, and Thomas Hopou, native teacher. At Taeaigh, same island, Mr. Elisha Loomis, teacher and printer, with his wife. At Hanaroorah, on the island of Woahoo, Rev. Hiram Bingham and his wife, Mr. Daniel Chamberlain, farmer, and his wife, and John Honoorree, native teacher. On the island of Atooi, Mr. Samuel Whitney, teacher and mechanic, and his wife; and Mr. Samuel Ruggles, teacher, and his wife. These last are favoured by George Tamoree, son of the King of Atooi, who returned home in the same vessel with the missionaries, convinced of the truth of christianity, but not giving evidence of piety, and therefore not connected with the mission. George Sandwich, another native, returned home to join the mission, about a year after its establishment.

Two persons, who went out as helpers in this work, have disappointed the hopes of the board and of the Christian public. William Tennooe, when he associated again with his countrymen, lost the appearance of religion, became intemperate, and after ineffectual attempts to reclaim him, was excommunicated. Dr. Thomas Holman settled alone with his wife on the island of Mowee, at a great distance from the brethren, against their advice, disregarding the instructions of the board, and neglecting the business of the mission. He also was cut off from the mission church, and in the present year returned to this country. These things are disheartening, especially to the missionaries themselves. But they appear to put their trust in the Lord, and continue their labours with cheerfulness.

FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE REPOSITORY.

THE SOCIETY ISLANDS.

The intelligence, which is so frequently received from these "isles of the sea," is uniformly of the most pleasing nature. Those who visit them, and witness the abundant fruits that have sprung from the seed, which a few years since was sown in this most unpromising soil, and watered by the blood of some of the missionaries of the cross, are struck with astonishment and admiration. The accounts which we receive from time to time, descriptive of the present state of society, are calculated to warm the Christian's heart, and to excite him to increased activity and zeal. But the testimony of visitors is frequently expressed in these emphatic words—"The half was not told us." By letters lately received from two gentlemen, Rev. D. Tyerman, and George Bennet, Esq. visiting these islands, and which come to us through the English publications, former accounts are confirmed. The striking contrast which is manifested by comparing the present happy state of society, with the wretchedness in which heathenism formerly involved them, is forcibly depicted. Says a letter from Eimeo—"A nation of pilferers have become eminently trustworthy. A people for many years addicted to lasciviousness in all its forms, have become modest and virtuous in the highest degree—those who a few

years ago despised all forms of religion except their own horrid and cruel superstitions, study the scriptures, and appear conscientiously to regulate themselves by those sacred oracles, under the direction of their teachers." These islands, which for so many years were scenes of the most horrid barbarities, whose inhabitants were cannibals of the most ferocious kind, and whose soil was often stained with the blood of human victims, are now the abodes of happiness, under mild and wholesome laws—laws which like our own are founded upon the precepts of the Divine word. Being under a state of good cultivation, their productions are abundant, and not only furnish a supply for the sustenance of their inhabitants, but afford many valuable articles for exportation. The letter mentioned says "that vision only can convey an adequate idea of their fertility, beauty, and sublimity." Marks of continued improvement are almost everywhere seen; houses and chapels are building; due attention is paid to education, and industrious habits generally prevail.

Another letter dated at Huahine speaks in the highest terms of the missionaries on that island.—The news of the death of Pomarre was received at the island while the writers were there. A very great sensation was produced. The people mourned the loss of a prince whom they loved. He was not only their friend, but the friend of their beloved missionaries. It is worthy of remark, that during the sickness of the king, when the people began to be apprehensive that his situation was dangerous, a day of fasting and prayer for his recovery was appointed by the chiefs, and strictly observed. After the exercises, he was visited by his subjects, and on this occasion their regard was manifested by their cries and tears.

Messrs. Tyerman and Bennet speak of a Sabbath which they spent in a most delightful manner. Not less than 1200 persons attended at each service. It was conducted after the English mode, but in the Tahitian language. At noon 7 or 800 persons, 400 of whom were children from 6 to 15 years of age, met for religious instruction. These attend with remarkable diligence every Sabbath; and on every other day in the week except Saturday, they meet for instruction in reading, writing, &c. On the Monday following, a meeting was held, at which about 1000 persons attended. Among them were the king and queen of the island, the chiefs, communicants, and others. The two gentlemen were invited, and both addressed the meeting through an interpreter. Several speeches were made by the natives—by the king, two chiefs, and a deacon in the church. "Indeed," say they, "we cannot conceive of countenances expressive of more benevolence, than those of two of the speakers; and they all spoke so evidently from the heart, that we felt moved by their speeches, even before they were interpreted to us; and when they were explained, we found them highly creditable both to their heads and hearts."

## RELIGIOUS.

FROM THE RHODE ISLAND AMERICAN.

The following extract from a late Circular of the Warren Baptist Association, breathes a spirit of enlightened Christian charity, which, if universally cultivated and extended, would banish from the Christian world all uncandid feelings and unprofitable contentions:

But again, it is sufficient that we cherish feelings of Christian affection towards those who are of the same denomination with ourselves? Here again the question occurs, has Christ loved them. If he has loved them, nothing can release us from the obligation.—But it may be asked, do we not in some respects differ? Undoubtedly we do. But what then? God has given me reason, and has commanded me to investigate by it the truths of divine revelation. He has in a similar manner endowed our brethren, and has placed them under the same obligation. Our reason leads us to one conclusion, and theirs leads them to another. Here the matter for the present must rest. We should both pray for ourselves and for each other, that God would open our eyes to see on which side lies the error, and lead both of us into all truth.

But is this any reason why we should exclude them from our Christian affection? Certainly not. If they bear the image of Christ, we are bound to love them; and if we love them not, justly may we expect to meet the frown of our offended Lord. We should long for their prosperity; we should rejoice in their success. We should sympathize with them in affliction, and mourn at their reverses. We should pray for

them, we should pray with them. We should feel that they are engaged with us in one common cause, the promotion of the glory of God, and the extension of the triumphs of the Redeemer. Paul and Barnabas differed upon the question whether or not Mark should accompany them on their mission. The difference was so great, that they separated. In one point, however, we doubt not they agreed. They fervently and devoutly supplicated the throne of Grace, for a blessing upon the labours of each other.

## REVIVALS.

Extract of a letter received by a member of the Columbian College, dated Norfolk, Va. October 21, 1822.

DEAR BROTHER,

I arrived in this place on the Saturday after you left it. You have taken so deep an interest in the prosperity of the church over which, as I hope, the "Holy Ghost has made me an overseer," and have laboured and suffered so much in promoting its welfare, that I need offer no apology for sending you the following account of our proceedings since my return.

On the Lord's day morning after my arrival, a goodly number assembled at the opening of the day to render thanks for my safe return, and to implore the divine blessing on the services of the day. At the usual hours I preached to attentive and weeping congregations; and in the evening we had one of the most solemn and affecting meetings I had ever attended. The house was crowded to overflowing. Numbers were in tears, and some who had been labouring and heavily laden, professed to find peace to their souls. The next evening we had, if possible, a more delightful meeting; but the ensuing evening was best of all.—The house was so crowded that it was impossible to sit down. The divine glory seemed to fill all the place. Christians wept for joy, and sinners for sorrow of heart.—I dismissed the congregation at the proper hour, but they would not go away. We continued until a late hour, necessary for sinners, praying for pardoning mercy, and praising the God of all grace and comfort. The next evening we met as usual. I forgot to say that I appointed Monday afternoon to meet the converts and others for religious conversation. Several came who appeared to have been "born again," and gave a very clear account of a work of grace upon their hearts. On Thursday evening we had a church meeting, when eleven persons gave in their experiences, which were very satisfactory, and the church agreed to receive them into membership when they should be baptized.

Yesterday morning, just as the sun arose, we hailed in songs of triumph the resurrection of our common Lord, and offered our united supplications for his presence and blessing through the day. At the usual hour for meeting in the morning, the house was crowded, and I endeavoured to answer the question, "Why baptizest thou?" When service was ended, we proceeded to the river, where in presence of those from Norfolk and the adjacent country, (say 300) I "buried" eleven persons "by baptism into death." It was a season of solemnity and joy.

"Often, O sovereign love! renew The wonders of this day; That Jesus here may see his seed, And Satan loose his prey."

The work is advancing in Portsmouth. Brother W. is all alive. While I was baptizing those eleven in Norfolk, he was baptizing three on the preceding Lord's day, and five before you went away, and he has now three candidates.

Among us there are numbers still who appear to be deeply exercised about their sins, and the salvation of their souls.

## SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FOREIGN.

The latest arrivals from Europe do not add any important intelligence to what we have already given.—Accounts respecting the Greeks continue contradictory. Some affirm that they have obtained new victories, others that they are subdued.—The Russian army, under Wittgenstein, have taken up new and extensive cantonments, which will be held till the question of peace or war with Turkey is finally settled.—Great preparations are making at Verona for the approaching Congress. Strangers who wish to remain there during the session, must show that they are in some way attached to the service or under the protection of one of the great powers. The Pope has given orders to have a residence ready for each of the three

sovereigns, who, it is presumed, will visit him during the session. The palace is designed by the Emperor of Austria; the place for the king of Prussia; the Doria palace for the Emperor of Russia.—The Spanish government is about negotiating a loan. The internal state of the country is deplorable. The rebels, as they are termed, are daily, and committing greater atrocities. In the city of St. Sebastian it is necessary, to deter the rebels from joining these troops, to confine on the estate of a nobleman, who have gone over, or to the city of St. Sebastian, which all losses occasioned by the insurgents are to be made out of the same estate. The Duke of France has bestowed the Legion of Honour on the naval lieutenant Com. for saving 170 Turkish lives, massacred at Athens, and distinction has been given to lieutenant Marguerite, for symptoms of "whitening" been manifested in his face, this persecuted and persecuted country. Buildings of natural produce to a large amount have been sent to Doneraile, and in the Ballyhoura mountains, extensive robberies have occurred in the neighbourhood of which is one from the Thomas and Ipswich mail, of the latter place, and from the East India Company, that the government have ordered a detachment to be fitted out under the command of the Com. T. Stallin, for the purpose of increasing the length of the Equator, to the operations lately performed in England, France, and other parts of the globe, from Berra, dated March, mentions the widow, who was seized on the funeral of her husband, leaped on the flames reached by the Hindoo, and glistened protected her.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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[illegible]

## POETRY.

The following Lines are extracted from the "Martyr of Antioch," by Milman. Fabius, Bishop of Antioch, being arraigned, with other Christians, before Olybius, the Roman Prefect, addresses him in this language.

Hear me, Prefect;  
Hear me, I charge thee by the eternal God,  
Alim whom thou knowest not, yet whose name o'er-  
awes thee;  
Nor think ye that I speak to sue for mercy  
Upon these children of myself; expend  
Your subtle tortures, might ye inflict  
But what we are proud to suffer. For yourselves  
I speak, in mercy to your fearful souls.  
God—at whose word the vast creation sprang,  
Exulting in its light and harmony,  
From the blank silence of the void abyss;  
At whose command at once the unpopled world  
Broke out in life, and man, the lord of all,  
Walk'd that pure paradise, from which his sin  
Expell'd him—God, that to the elder world  
Spoke with the avenging voice of rolling waters,  
When the wide deluge swept from all the earth  
The giant-born—He that in thunder-peals  
Held dread converse with his chosen people;  
And made the portent-teeming elements,  
And the apt souls of Prophets, to proclaim  
His will almighty—in our latter days  
That God hath spoken by his Son. He came,  
From the dark ages of the infant world  
Foretold—the Prophets' everlasting burthen,  
The Virgin bare the Son, the angelic hosts  
Burst out in song—the Father from his clouds  
Declared him. To his miracles of might  
Consenting, Nature own'd her Lord. His power,  
His sorrows, all his glory, all his shame,  
His cross, his death, his broken tomb bear witness,  
And the bright clouds that wrap him to the Sire  
Ascending. And again he comes, again;  
But not as then, not clad in mortal flesh,  
To live the life, or die the death of man:  
Girt with his own omnipotence, his throne  
The wreck of worlds; the glory of his presence  
Lighting infinity. He comes to assume  
Th' eternal Judgment Seat. Then thou and I,  
Olybius, and thy armed satellites,  
And these my meek and lowly followers;  
Thou, that art enthroned in purple robes,  
The three-triangular Lord of all our Asia,  
And I, a nameless, weak, unknown old man,  
That stand an helpless criminal before thee,  
Shall meet once more. The earth shall cast us up,  
The winds shall waft our thin and scatter'd ashes,  
The ocean yield us up our drowned bones;  
There shall we meet before the cloudy throne—  
Before the face of Him, whose awful brightness  
Shall be the sun of that dread day, in which  
The thousand thousands of the angelic hosts,  
And all the souls of all mankind shall bask,  
Waiting their doom eternal. Thou and I  
Shall there give in the account of this day's process,  
And Christ shall render each his due reward.

## MISCELLANY.

### CHARACTER OF CHRIST.

"He sets an example," says bishop Newcomb, "of the most perfect piety to God, and of the most extensive benevolence and the most tender compassion to men. He does not merely exhibit a life of strict justice, but of overflowing benignity. His temperance has not the dark shade of austerity; his meekness does not degenerate into apathy; his humility is signal, amidst a splendour of qualities more than human; his fortitude is eminent and exemplary in enduring the most formidable external evils, and the sharpest actual sufferings. His patience is invincible; his resignation entire and absolute. Truth and sincerity shine throughout his whole conduct. Though of heavenly descent, he shows obedience and affection to his earthly parents; he approves, loves, and attaches himself to amiable qualities in the human race; he respects authority, religious and civil; and he evidences regard for his country, by promoting its most essential good in a painful ministry dedicated to its service, by deploring its calamities, and by laying down his life for its benefit. Every one of his eminent virtues is regulated by consummate prudence; and he both wins the love of his friends, and extorts the approbation and wonder of his enemies. Never was a character at the same time so commanding and natural, so resplendent and pleasing, so amiable and venerable. There is a peculiar contrast in it between an awful greatness, dignity, and majesty, and the most conciliating loveliness, tenderness, and softness. He now converses with prophets, law-givers, and angels; and the next instant he meekly endures the dulness of his disciples, and the blasphemies and rage of the multitude. He now calls himself greater than Solomon; one who can command legions of angels; the giver of life to whomsoever he pleaseth; the Son of God, who shall sit on his glorious throne to judge the world. At other times we find him embracing young children; not lifting up his voice in the streets, not breaking the bruised reed, not quenching the smoking flax; calling his disciples not servants, but friends and brethren, and comforting them with an exuberant and parental affection. Let us pause an instant, and fill our minds with the idea of one who knew all things, heavenly and earthly; searched and laid open the inmost recesses of the heart; rectified every prejudice, and removed every mistake of a moral and religious kind; by a word exercised a sovereignty over all nature, penetrated the hidden events of futurity, gave promises of admission into a happy immortality, had the keys of life and death, claimed an union with the Father; and yet was pious, mild, gentle, humble, affable, social, benevolent, friendly, and affectionate. Such a character is fairer than the morning star. Each separate virtue is made

stronger by opposition and contrast: and the union of so many virtues forms a brightness which fully represents the glory of that God who inhabiteth light inaccessible."

"Here (says White, in his Sermons) every grace that can recommend religion, and every virtue that can adorn humanity, are so blended, as to excite our admiration, and engage our love. In abstaining from licentious pleasures, he was equally free from ostentatious singularity and churlish sullenness. When he complied with the established ceremonies of his countrymen, that compliance was not accompanied by any marks of bigotry or superstition; when he opposed their rooted prepossessions, his opposition was perfectly exempt from the captious petulance of a controversialist, and the undistinguished zeal of an innovator. His courage was active in encountering the dangers to which he was exposed, and passive under the aggravated calamities which the malice of his foes heaped upon him: his fortitude was remote from every appearance of rashness, and his patience was equally exempt from abject pusillanimity: he was firm without obstinacy, and humble without meanness. Though possessed of the most unbounded power, we behold him living continually in a state of voluntary humiliation and poverty; we see him daily exposed to almost every species of want and distress; afflicted without a comforter, persecuted without a protector; and wandering about, according to his own pathetic complaint, because he had not where to lay his head.—Though regardless of the pleasures and sometimes destitute of the comforts of life, he never provokes our disgust by the sourness of the misanthrope, or our contempt by the inactivity of the recluse. His attention to the welfare of mankind was evidenced not only by his salutary injunctions, but by his readiness to embrace every opportunity of relieving their distress, and administering to their wants. In every period and circumstance of his life, we behold dignity and elevation blended with love and piety; something which, though it awakens our admiration, yet attracts our confidence. We see power; but it is a power which is rather our security than our dread; a power softened with tenderness, and soothing while it awes. With all the gentleness of a meek and lowly mind, we behold an heroic firmness, which no terrors could shake, and no opposition could restrain. In the private scenes of life, and in the public occupations of his ministry; whether the object of admiration or ridicule, of love or of persecution; whether welcomed with hosannas, or insulted with anathemas, we still see him pursuing with unwearied constancy the same end, and preserving the same integrity of life and manners."

FROM THE RELIGIOUS REMEMBRANCE.  
ON PRAYER.—BY CHRYSOSTOM.

[If the following remarks are characteristic of pious enthusiasm, it is an enthusiasm most desirable; an enthusiasm, which, if more prevalent, would be accompanied with blessings to the world beyond the highest calculations of the theoretical Christian.]  
Prayer is an all-sufficient panoply; a treasure undiminished; a mine which never is exhausted; a sky unobscured by clouds; a haven unruffled by the storm; it is the root, the fountain, and the mother of a thousand blessings.—I speak not of the prayer which is cold and feeble, and devoid of energy; I speak of that which is the child of a contrite spirit, the offspring of a soul converted, born in a blaze of unutterable inspiration, and winged like lightning for the skies.  
The potency of prayer hath subdued the strength of fire; it hath bridled the rage of lions; hushed anarchy to rest; extinguished wars; appeased the elements; expelled demons; burst the chains of death; expanded the gates of heaven; assuaged diseases; repelled frauds; rescued cities from destruction; it hath stayed the sun in its course, and arrested the progress of the thunderbolt; in a word, it has destroyed whatever is an enemy to man. I again repeat, that I speak not of the prayer engendered by the lips; but of that which ascends from the recesses of the heart. Assuredly, there is nothing more potent than prayer; yea, there is nothing comparable to it. A monarch vested in gorgeous habiliments, is far less illustrious than a kneeling suppliant, ennobled and adorned by communion with his God. Consider how august a privilege it is, when angels are present, and archangels throng around; when cherubim and seraphim encircle with their blaze the throne; that a mortal may approach with unrestrained confidence, and converse with heaven's dread Sovereign! O! what honour

was ever conferred like this! When a Christian stretches forth his hands and invokes his God, in that moment he leaves behind him all terrestrial pursuits and traverses on the wings of intellect the realms of life;—he contemplates celestial objects only, and knows not of the present state of things during the period of his prayer; provided that prayer be breathed with fervency. Could we but pray with fervency; could we but pray with a soul resuscitated, a mind awakened, an understanding quickened, then were Satan to appear he would instantaneously fly; were the gates of hell to yawn upon us, they would close again.

Prayer is a haven to a shipwrecked mariner; an anchor unto them that are sinking in the waves; a staff to the limbs that totter; a mine of jewels to the poor, a security to the rich, a healer of disease, and a guardian of health. Prayer at once secures the continuance of our blessings, and dissipates the cloud of our calamities. O prayer! O blessed prayer! Thou art the unwearied conqueror of human woes; the firm foundation of human happiness; the source of ever-during joy. The man who can pray truly, though languishing in extremest indigence, is richer than all beside; whilst the wretch who never bowed the knee, though proudly seated as monarch of the nations, is of all men most destitute.

Let us then direct our thoughts to him that was poor, yet rich; rich because he was poor. Let us overlook the enjoyments of the present, and desire the blessings of the future; for so shall we obtain the blessings both of the present and the future. Oh! may we all obtain them, through the grace and beneficence of Christ our Lord; to whom with the Father and Holy Spirit, be ascribed all glory, now and for evermore! Amen.

FROM THE UNION.

SIR WILLIAM HERSCHEL.

The accounts of this celebrated individual, which have found their way into the papers and magazines since his death, are in many respects very inaccurate. The following has been furnished by a gentleman acquainted with Sir William and his family, and its accuracy may be relied on:—

"Sir William Herschel was born in November, 1738; his father being a musician, brought up his four sons, of whom Sir William was the second, to the same profession, and placed him at the age of fourteen in the band of the Hanoverian Foot Guards. Unable, however, long to endure the drudgery of such a situation, and conscious of a superior proficiency in his art, he determined on quitting the regiment and seeking his fortune in England, where he arrived about the end of the year 1757. After struggling with great difficulties in London, he was engaged by the earl of Darlington to superintend and instruct a military band then forming by that nobleman in the county of Durham, and the opening thus afforded contributed so far to increase his reputation and connections, as to induce him to spend several years after the termination of this engagement in the neighbourhood of Leeds, Pontefract, Doncaster, &c. where he had many scholars, and led the public concerts, oratorios, &c.  
"In 1766, he was chosen organist at Halifax, a situation he soon after resigned for the more advantageous one of organist at the Octagon Chapel at Bath. In this great and gay resort of fashion his extraordinary musical talents procured him ample employment; and the direction of the public concerts and his private teaching procured him a considerable income.  
"But though fond to enthusiasm of his profession, his ardent thirst of knowledge had begun for some time past to open a nobler field for his exertions. While at Halifax, he had commenced a course of mathematical reading, and in spite of the difficulty of such studies, acquired without assistance a considerable familiarity with the principles both of pure and applied mathematics. The sublime views disclosed by the modern astronomy had powerfully attracted his attention, and when he read of the noble discoveries made by the assistance of the telescope, he was seized with an irresistible desire to see with his own eyes the wonders he read of. Fortunately the price of an instrument capable of satisfying his curiosity, was beyond his means, and he resolved to attempt the construction of one for himself. In this arduous task, after encountering endless difficulties, he succeeded, and in 1774 first saw Saturn in a five feet reflecting telescope, made by his own hands. Encouraged by this success, he now attempted larger telescopes, and soon completed a seven, a ten, and a twenty feet reflector, labouring with such obstinacy as

to have actually finished no less than 200 object mirrors, before he could satisfy himself with the performance of one.

"Astronomy now occupied so much of his attention, that he began to limit his professional engagements, and restrict the number of his scholars.

"About the latter end of 1779 he commenced a regular review of the Heavens, star by star, with a seven feet reflector, and having already continued this for 18 months, he was at length rewarded, on the 13th of March, 1781, with the discovery of a new primary planet, to which he afterwards gave the name of Georgium Sidus, now more generally distinguished by that of Uranus.

"In consequence of this memorable discovery, the attention of the scientific world became fixed upon him, and his late Majesty, with a promptitude of liberality which must ever be recorded to his honour as a patron of science, enabled him, by the settlement of a handsome salary, to discontinue his professional exertions, and devote the remainder of his life wholly to astronomy. In consequence of this arrangement, Herschel immediately quitted Bath, and took up his residence at Datchet, in the neighbourhood of Windsor, where he was no sooner established than he entered on a career of discovery unexampled perhaps in the history of science. Having removed to Slough, he commenced the erection of a telescope of yet larger dimensions than any before attempted, which he completed in 1787, and aided by this stupendous instrument, and by others of hardly inferior power, extended his researches to every part of the Heavens, penetrating into regions of space of a remoteness eluding calculation, and developing views of the construction of our own system and the universe, of a daring sublimity, hardly more surprising than the strictness of the induction on which they rest.

"In these observations, and the laborious calculations into which they led, he was assisted throughout by his excellent sister, Miss Caroline Herschel, whose indefatigable and unhesitating devotion in the performance of a task usually deemed incompatible with female habits, surpasses all eulogium. It is not our task to trace the progress of these discoveries, which were communicated as they arose to the Royal Society, and form an important part of the public transactions of that learned body from the year 1782 to 1818.

"In 17— he married Mary, widow of the late John Pitt, Esq., and the accession of domestic happiness he experienced from this union, while it testified the justice of his choice, contributed powerfully to cherish that calm tranquility of mind which is the native element of contemplative philosophy, and the soil from which its shoots rise most vigorous and most secure.

"In 1816, his present majesty was graciously pleased to confer on him the decorations of the Guelphic Order of Knighthood. His astronomical observations were continued within a few years of his death, till his declining strength no longer keeping pace with the activity of his mind, he sunk at length full of years and glory, amidst the applause of the world, and what was far dearer to him, the veneration of his family and the esteem and love of all who knew him."

Sir William Herschel has left one son, who, with his father's name, inherits his distinguished talents.

A great mind may change its objects but it cannot relinquish them; it must have something to pursue. Variety is its relaxation, and amusement its repose.

Hope is a prodigious young heir, and Experience is his banker; but his drafts are seldom honoured, since there is a heavy balance against him, because he draws largely on a small capital, is not yet in possession, and if he were, would die.

'Tis not the many oaths, that make the truth; but the plain single vow, that is vow'd true.

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Dr. Staughton's. FOR SALE AT THE COLUMBIAN AND BY DAVIS AND THE ADDRESS. Delivered at the Opening of the Columbian 9th January, 1821. By the Rev. Dr. William President of the University. Price 25 cents—and sold for larger quantities. Feb 2—

The Land Office General Agent. Is removed to 6th Street Hotel, where persons are invited to call who have to transact in this city, in the office of an Agent, and necessary, or can be transacted. Such of the purchases of lands as failed to attain the provisions of the Act of Congress, March, 1821, can, through this Office, have their made, or declarations of intention be made before the next, conformably to the April last. Deeds recorded, and lands lying in the Illinois, Arkansas.

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